

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph starting at line 30 of page 2 has been amended as follows:

A retroreflective photoelectric sensor embodying this invention may be of a biaxial type or of a coaxial type. A retroreflective photoelectric sensor of the biaxial type embodying this invention may be characterized as comprising a light-emitting optical system having a light-emitting element that emits an expanding beam of light with a fixed gate angle, a first polarizer and a light-emitting lens arranged sequentially in this order, a light-receiving optical system having a light-receiving lens, a second polarizer and a light-receiving element arranged sequentially in this order, and a phase shifter inserted between the first polarizer and the light-emitting lens of the light-emitting optical system, and wherein the first polarizer and the second polarizer have mutually perpendicular polarizer axes. Thus, light from the light-emitting element passes through the first polarizer while increasing the sectional area of its flux to be made incidence to the light-emitting lens and is transmitted to the target area of detection. Similarly, reflected light received through the light-receiving lens passes through the second polarizer while decreasing the sectional area of its flux to be made incidence to the light-receiving element serving to generate an electrical signal according to the quantity of the received light. The first and second polarizers are arranged such that their polarizer axes are perpendicular to each other, or they may be preferably set in the so-called cross-nicol relationship. A phase shifter may further be placed between the first polarizer and the light-emitting lens of the light-emitting optical system. A 1/2 wave plate (or a 1/2 phase shifter) may preferably be used for this purpose.